

### **3.3 YOUNG DRIVER INVOLVEMENT**

***This section presents a series of data displays which describe young driver involvement in Missouri's traffic crash experience. Young driver traffic crashes are defined as any crash in which one or more drivers of motorized vehicles directly involved in the traffic crash were under the age of 21. Data displays also are provided which identify characteristics of these young drivers.***

#### **2000 SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

- Of all 2000 Missouri traffic crashes, 31.6% involved a young driver. Of all fatal traffic crashes, 25.8% involved a young driver. A total of 311 persons were killed and 25,313 were injured in traffic crashes involving young drivers.
- There was a decrease of 0.5% in the rate of change when comparing 2000 young driver traffic crashes with those in 1999. There was an increase of 9.1% when comparing 2000 fatal young driver traffic crashes with 1999.
- In 2000, one person was killed or injured in young driver related traffic crashes every 20.6 minutes in the State of Missouri.
- Of all young driver related traffic crashes, the first harmful event in 75.7% of the incidents involved one motor vehicle in transport striking another motor vehicle in transport. In 15.5% of the cases, the first harmful event involved one motor vehicle striking a fixed object. In young driver fatal traffic crashes, 36.4% of the cases involved a motor vehicle striking a fixed object.
- Of all 2000 young driver crashes, 60.7% occurred in an urban area and 39.3% occurred in a rural area of the State. However, 76.3% of the fatal young driver crashes occurred in a rural area.
- Of all young driver traffic crashes, 33.7% occurred on Friday or Saturday.
- Of all young drivers involved in traffic crashes, 58.2% were male and 41.8% were female. Of those young drivers involved in fatal traffic crashes, 75.2% were male. The average age of young drivers (20 years and under) was 17.9 years.
- Of the young drivers, 91.8% had a Missouri driver's license / permit, 5.8% had an out-of-state driver's license, and 2.4% were unlicensed at the time of the crash.
- Of the young drivers, 74.0% were driving an automobile and 15.3% were driving a pickup truck at the time of the crash.
- In 43.9% of the 2000 young driver related fatal traffic crashes, a young driver was either exceeding the speed limit or driving too fast for conditions which contributed to the cause of the crash. In 14.6% of these fatal crashes, the young driver's drinking condition contributed to the cause of the crash.

**2000 MISSOURI TRAFFIC CRASHES**  
**YOUNG DRIVER INVOLVEMENT**

	FATAL	%	PERSONAL INJURY	%	PROPERTY DAMAGE	%	TOTAL	%	TOTAL NUMBER <sup>1</sup>	KILLED	INJURED	YOUNG DRIVERS <sup>2</sup> KILLED	YOUNG DRIVERS <sup>2</sup> INJURED
YOUNG DRIVER INVOLVED	253	25.8	15,480	32.9	37,444	31.2	53,177	31.6	311	25,313	125	9,915	
NO YOUNG DRIVER INVOLVED	728	74.2	31,559	67.1	82,702	68.8	114,989	68.4	836	47,484	-	-	
UNKNOWN <sup>3</sup>	10	-	2,676	-	22,926	-	25,612	-	10	3,531	-	-	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>49,715</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>143,072</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>193,778</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>76,328</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>9,915</b>	

<sup>1</sup>This statistic indicates the total number of persons killed and injured in a crash where one or more young drivers were involved.

<sup>2</sup>This statistic indicates the number of young drivers killed and injured.

<sup>3</sup>Crashes were classified as unknown if the following conditions exist: none of the known drivers involved in the accident was 20 years of age and younger and the ages of one or more drivers involved in the crash was not known.

**TABLE 3.3.1**